

December 1, 1958

Dr. George Klein  
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Stockholm 60, Sweden

Dear George:

Hastily to yours of the 26th just arrived. Esther and I are very deeply indebted to you for the moral support and for the arrangements you are making in our behalf. We certainly do not forgive you for the advice you offer, we are very grateful to you for it. We must apologize for having asked you to take the brunt of all of our hesitations and I hope they will in no way diminish the wonder of the occasion. I have tried as best as possible to keep my direct correspondence with Stohle, Friberg, and Liljestrang on the most cordial plane, in response to their official communications. My correspondence with you is of course a private matter.

The arrangements that you have summarized seem entirely satisfactory; we would of course have preferred some rest and composure on leaving our plane but we will look forward to meeting the committee upon our arrival. Of course you should be proud of the Nobel Foundation and I hope that nothing we have said or will say will corrode this in any way. I hope that the text of my formal acceptance speech will, taken as a whole, emphasize this.

Your suggestions are very useful and we will be prepared for the entire program. I am sorry now that our schedule conflicts with the Lucia Festival which we would rather have liked to attend. We will at least inquire whether there is any possibility of changing our bookings so as to accommodate it. But as things stand now we would simply already have left Stockholm by the time of the Festival.

I am sure that I can arrange to return to Stockholm before May 31 for the formal lecture and will be happy for the occasion. I will certainly not mention any date after that. I assume that we can discuss the details after our arrival.

You should have received my clothing measurements in an earlier aerogram.

Esther is very grateful too for advice about clothing.

Remarkably enough I think we will survive the occasion and perhaps may even enjoy it as much as we should.

Yours as ever,

Joshua Lederberg